THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) Considering the large number of LPG distributors operating in the country (nearly 3,100 as on December 1, 1987) the effort involved in compilation of the required details would not be commensurate with the purpose sought to be served Complaints received by the Oil Compaines against the distributors are investigated, and wherever necessary appropriate action is taken against the erring distributors in accordance with Marketing Discipline Guidelines.

Production of oil and gas in Bombay High

3003. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of oil and gas in Bombay High has declined; and

(b) if so, what are the measures being taken by Government to maintain the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Production of gas in Bombay High is increasing. However, there is a marginal reduction in crude production which is normal in any reservoir with passage of time.

(b) Measures include—

— Use of enhanced recovery techniques

— Intensification of work-over techniques

— Use of artifical lift mechanism

— Closer spacing of wells

— Pressure maintain and techniques.

Exploration of crude oil in Cauvery Basin

3004 SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target fixed under the Seventh Five Year Plan for exploration of crude oil in the Cauvery Basin;

(b) what is the record of production there so far; and

(c) what are the effective measures taken by Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) During the 7th Plan, it is planned to undertake 36 party year of seismic surveys and drilling of 46 wells in onshore areas & 175800 SLK of seismic survey and exploratory drilling of 21 wells in off-shore areas.

It is also tentatively planned to produce about 0.2 million tonnes of crude oil.

(b) Cumulative production of crude oil in the basin upto end of October, 1987 was 11752 tonnes

(c) Measures taken include:—

— Intensification of exploratory efforts, including delineation drilling to establish more reserves which will eventually lead to more production.

— Commencement of production in near future from other producer wells including through early production system and expansion of production facilities.

— Workover operation on wells needing workover jobs so as to complete these wells for putting them on production.

Talks with Soviet Union about Karnal refinery

3005. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussions have recently been held with the Soviet Union regard-

ing their cooperation in the setting up of the Karnal refinery;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the outcome of the talks held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An Indo-Soviet Agreement on Economic and technical Cooperation has been signed for providing Soviet assistance in the implementation of 6 MTPA Karnal Oil Refinery Project including Chaksu-Karnal Crude Oil Pipeline and the related facilities thereto.

Displacement of villagers in coal mining areas

3006. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that generally mass displacement of villagers takes place in the mining areas;

(b) if so, what is the total area as present covered by mining and what is the planned overall programme to bring new areas undermining and the total member of people displaced so far and likely to be displaced annually;

(c) whether Government have prepared any plan for their rehabilitation, and

(d) if so, what are the costs involved therein and the benefits, if any?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d) Residents of lands acquired for coal mining projects are necessarily required to move out to other sites. However, it is not correct to state that acquisitions of land for coal projects have always led to mass displacement of villagers. A rough estimate shows that in fifteen years since nationalisation not more than 50,000 persons or 10,000 families were affected by land acquisition for coal projects, scattered over 7 States. In terms of averages, this means displacement of less than 100 families per year per State. Even then, adequate care is taken to ensure that no avoidable hardship is caused to the land oustees Apart from payment of compensation, which is now more generous after the amendment of the Land Acquisition Act in 1984, the Coal Companies offer a package of rehabilitation assistance which includes—

(1) Preference in ecployment in the course of normal recruitments.

(2) Payment of shifting allowance of Rs. 1,000/- to each displaced family.

(3) Allotment of company accommodation on out-of turn basis.

(4) Encouraging the dispossessed families to take useful avocations like poultry farming, animal husbandry etc.

(5) Arrangement of suitable training to the members of the evictee families to equip them for getting employment in the project.

(6) Provision of alternative house sites with developed infrastructural facilities.

The cost of these measures and the benefits that accrue to the villagers are not amendable to quantification since these depend on the peculiar circumstances of each case.

Environmental situation in coal mining areas

3007 SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI.

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made about the environmental situation in the coal mining areas;